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RAY WEDDING FIGURES — The Rev. James Lawson, a close associate of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., conducted the wedding ceremony of Dr. King's convicted assassin, James Earl Ray and Anna Sandhu at the Brushy Mountain State Prison on Friday, Oct. 13. Rev. Lawson told the couple their marriage "signifies that the best of your lives is yet to be and not behind you."

Ray's attorney promises to call name in slaying

PETROS, Tenn. — Mark Lane, James Earl Ray's attorney, said he knows the name of a person involved in killing Dr. Martin Luther King in 1968 and will identify the person within two weeks.

"We have discovered evidence to show there was a group of people involved in the murder of Martin Luther King Jr.," Lane said last week after Ray's marriage to Anna Sandhu, a 32 - year - old Knoxville divorcee.

Lane, a former New York state legislator who recently moved his home to Memphis in hopes of winning Ray a new trial in the Dr. King case, announced his findings at a news conference at Brushy Mountain State Prison, where Ray is serving a 99 - year sentence for Dr. King's assassination.

"I believe the prime suspects in the murder of Martin Luther King were those people associated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1968," Lane told reporters. Lane has frequently charged the FBI with being involved in the Memphis slaying.

Lane said the Rev. James Lawson, who conducted the wedding ceremony, has investigated the case on his own and come up with information that "confirms, complements and corroborates what I have."

Lawson was a close associate of Dr. King, and was instrumental in bringing the civil rights leader to Memphis to help calm the city, which was torn by a violent garbage strike.

The Rev. Lawson, now pastor of the Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, said he agreed to perform the ceremony when asked by Miss Sandhu, who first met Ray at a court hearing last summer.

Lawson, who lived in Memphis 10 years ago, said he has doubts about Ray's guilt.

Asked if he thought it ironic that he, a Dr. King associate, would perform the wedding ceremony for the man who confessed 10 years ago that he shot King, Lawson told UPI:

"If you'll remember, Jesus Christ said on the cross, 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.' There's no doubt in my mind that my marrying this couple would be in the spirit of forgiveness that Martin Luther King always strived for.

"Even if James Earl Ray were the killer beyond a shadow of a doubt, and Dr. King could return to perform the marriage, he would do it," said Lawson.

"I won't have any time alone with him," Miss Sandhu, who was divorced five years ago from an Indian student, said. "I don't feel good about that at all, but there's nothing I can do about it."

Asked if she has been criticized for planning the wedding as a publicity stunt, Miss Sandhu replied:

"People who know me know I wouldn't do this unless I was sincere."